

Message Text

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TAGS: ETRN, JA, US

SUBJECT: US-JAPAN TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PANEL (TRP)

REF: TOKYO 4764

1. DOT CONFIRMS JUNE 10-11 DATE.

2. REF PARA 1(C) REFTEL HARDING WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR JUNE 10-11 MEETING. DOT/FRA HOPES THAT KYOTANI WILL ALSO BE ABLE TO ATTEND MEETING. THIS IS A RESEARCH AREA IN WHICH MOMENTUM OF INFORMATION EXCHANGE SHOULD BE MAINTAINED, AND DOT/FRA PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN DISCUSSION OF IMPACT OF RECENT ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS ON FUTURE OF HIGH SPEED GROUND TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS. IF KYOTANI NOT RPT NOT AVAILABLE JUNE 10/11, REQUEST EMBOFF ATTEMPT FIRM UP ALTERNATIVE DATE FOR SEPARATE KYOTANI WASHINGTON MEETING WITH DOT/FRA OFFICIALS.

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3. RE PARA 1(D). THIS IS FOLLOW-ON TO ITEM REQUESTED

BY JAPANESE SIDE FOR SIXTH PANEL MEETING LAST MAY AND REFERS TO COMPUTER-BASED SYSTEMS. AT LAST MEETING, JAPANESE SIDE DISCUSSED WORK OF THEIR TRANSPORT INFORMATION SYSTEM COMMITTEE AND THE JNR "GREEN WINDOW" AND U.S. SIDE OUTLINED TRIS (TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH INFORMATION SYSTEM) AND TRAIS (TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH ACTIVITY INFORMATION SYSTEM). DOT FOUND LAST YEAR'S EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION HIGHLY USEFUL, BUT DOES NOT RPT NOT SEE URGENT NEED TO DISCUSS THIS TOPIC AT JUNE 10-11 MEETING, AND WOULD THEREFORE BE AGREEABLE TO DEFERRING A MEETING ON THIS TOPIC IN VIEW JAPANESE INABILITY SEND PARTICIPANTS. THIS TOPIC IS VIEWED AS SEPARATE AND DISTINCT FROM THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM ON FREIGHT DOCUMENT STANDARDIZATION AND AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION OF EXPORT-IMPORT DATA. FORMER INVOLVES BUILDING DATA BASES ON NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS AND R AND D, WHILE LATTER IS CONCERNED WITH FACILITATION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND TRANSPORTATION.

4. RE PARA 1(E). THIS ITEM REFERS TO PROPOSAL MADE BY DOT ASST. SECY BINDER DURING ECONCOM IX COUNTERPART DISCUSSIONS WITH VICE MINISTER SATO. IT WAS AGREED THAT AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON ENVIRONMENTAL TRANSPORTATION CONTROL STRATEGIES (INCLUDING SUCH MEASURES AS AUTO USE RESTRICTIONS) WOULD BE DESIRABLE, AND THAT THE TRIP WOULD BE AN APPROPRIATE FORUM. THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) HAS INDICATED ITS WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DISCUSSIONS ON THIS POINT. REQUEST EMBASSY CLARIFY WHETHER MOT ALSO WISHES TO DISCUSS OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS SUCH AS MARINE POLLUTION AND HIGHWAY NOISE ABATEMENT AT JUNE 10-11 MEETING.

5. RE PARA 2. DOT AGREEABLE TO 10-14 DAY DEADLINE FOR PAPERS IN ADVANCE OF JUNE 10 MEETING.

6. WOULD MOT CONSIDER THE ADDITION OF URBAN GOODS MOVEMENT (UGM) AS A TOPIC IN VIEW OF DEFERRAL OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS? DOT MOST INTERESTED IN THIS TOPIC AND BELIEVES JAPAN EXPERIENCES SIMILAR INEFFICIENCIES IN THIS AREA. IMPROVEMENTS IN UGM HAVE BENEFITS FOR ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY CONSERVATION AND ALLEVIATION OF CONGESTION. DOT PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN JAPANESE EXPERIENCE WITH (1) TUBULAR SYSTEM OF URBAN FREIGHT MOVEMENT BEING TESTED IN OSAKA, (2) LOCATION OF TRUCK TERMINALS

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AT URBAN BOUNDARIES WITH SMALLER TERMINALS DOWNTOWN AND (3) RESTRICTION OF TRUCKS USING TOKYO EXPRESSWAY TO LANES FARTHEST FROM ABUTTERS DURING LATE NIGHT HOURS. KISSINGER

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